

GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

*Los Angeles Gateway Region
Integrated Regional Water Management
Joint Powers Authority*

16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723 • 562.663.6850 phone 562.634.8216 fax • www.gatewayirwmp.org

October 10, 2013

Mr. Mark Cowin, Director
California Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: Request For Re-Evaluation of Application and Protest of Proposition 84 Round 2
Implementation Grant – Draft Funding Recommendations

Dear Director Cowin:

This is the second of two letters sent to the California Department of Water Resources “DWR” in protest of the Draft Funding Recommendations for Proposition 84 Round 2 Implementation Grants. This also serves as our official request for a re-evaluation of our application. While we continue to be one of the many regions across the State to protest DWR’s evaluation process and its subjective inter-funding re-allocations and subjective point system, we are officially submitting this request for a more thorough evaluation of our application before final recommendations are announced.

Representatives from the Gateway Region, including legislative staff, local elected officials and stakeholders attended DWR’s Public Comment Meeting in Sacramento on October 7th. It was noted several times by regions throughout the State, that the draft recommendations should not have been released until a more thorough evaluation process had been conducted through follow-up phone calls with applicants. Many of the apparent omissions were actually not true if only given the opportunity to show where the information had been presented in the application. As we all know, one or two words can change an interpretation entirely which again shows the subjectivity of the evaluations and point system. Additionally, given the fact that the highest score throughout the State was a B- (on an A-F grading system), leads us to believe that the application process and the evaluation/scoring process are not clear and not well communicated and understood. This is a major problem when allocating and awarding millions of dollars throughout the State.

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The evaluation summary is critical of the way we chose to develop the Project Performance Tables. In particular, it is critical of the way we address project implementation rather than the benefits of the projects. For five of the six individual project components, we focused on the overriding benefit as the last goal because timely completion of plans, construction, and reports is critical to the timely completion of these projects. In one case where the project had multiple principal objectives, we combined project design and construction into one goal and the other societal goals of the project. One specific criticism was that for one project the measurement tool is an outcome rather than a tool. We acknowledge that we left off the words “measurement of” when we meant to say “measurement of water quantity available for transfer”. We apologize for that error, but the water quantity available is the critical factor.

The evaluation summary of the Work Plan indicates that the Work Plan does not identify the IRWM Goals and Objectives. That is not correct. At the time of the application, the IRWMP was still under development and had not been voted on by its Stakeholders and Project Proponents. However, the work plan did present an overview of the goals and objectives in the draft IRWMP. The evaluation also says that it is unclear how the projects will meet the goals. Perhaps the explanation of the relationship could have been more directly stated. However, each detailed project description explains what that component of the overall project is intended to accomplish, and those descriptions relate to the draft IRWMP goals and objectives described early in the Work Plan. In addition, the Work Plan is criticized for not showing the location of individual projects on the overall project location map. That was, in some cases, intentional since several of the projects are spatially small, especially the location of the individual catch basin insert projects throughout multiple municipalities. Nonetheless, we disagree that the maps were not provided. Please see the following examples:

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Figure 2 of the Work Plan

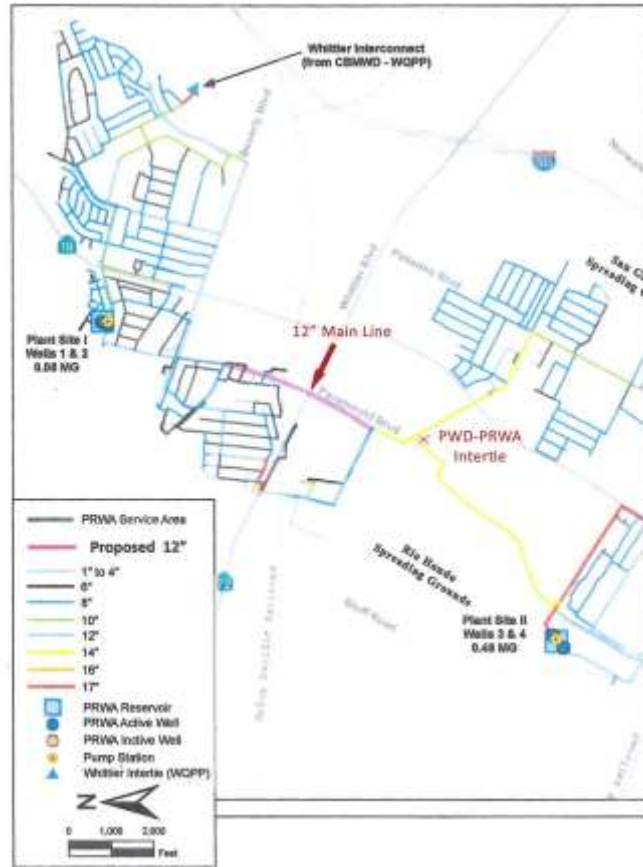


Figure 6 of the Work Plan

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In addition, we have attached the DAC section which clearly shows the specific locations of proposed catch basin inserts and how they relate to the DAC section of individual cities.

Finally, LA County Flood Control's (Greater LA County) successful application included a program to retrofit catch basin screens in the single city of Carson. Conversely, GWMA's program to install recognized full-capture screens throughout DAC areas crossing jurisdictions in multiple cities was not awarded.

Again, we strongly protest DWR's process and evaluations of the Round 2 Prop 84 Implementation Grant Applications. As a result, we submit this letter as an official request for a re-evaluation of the Gateway Region's application. We look forward to a more thorough evaluation and process.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Cash, Chair

cc: Speaker of the Assembly John Perez
Assembly Members: Anthony Rendon, Ian Calderon, Cristina Garcia,
Sharon Quirk-Silva, Bonnie Lowenthal

Senators: Ricardo Lara, Kevin DeLeon

GWMA Board Members

Attachments

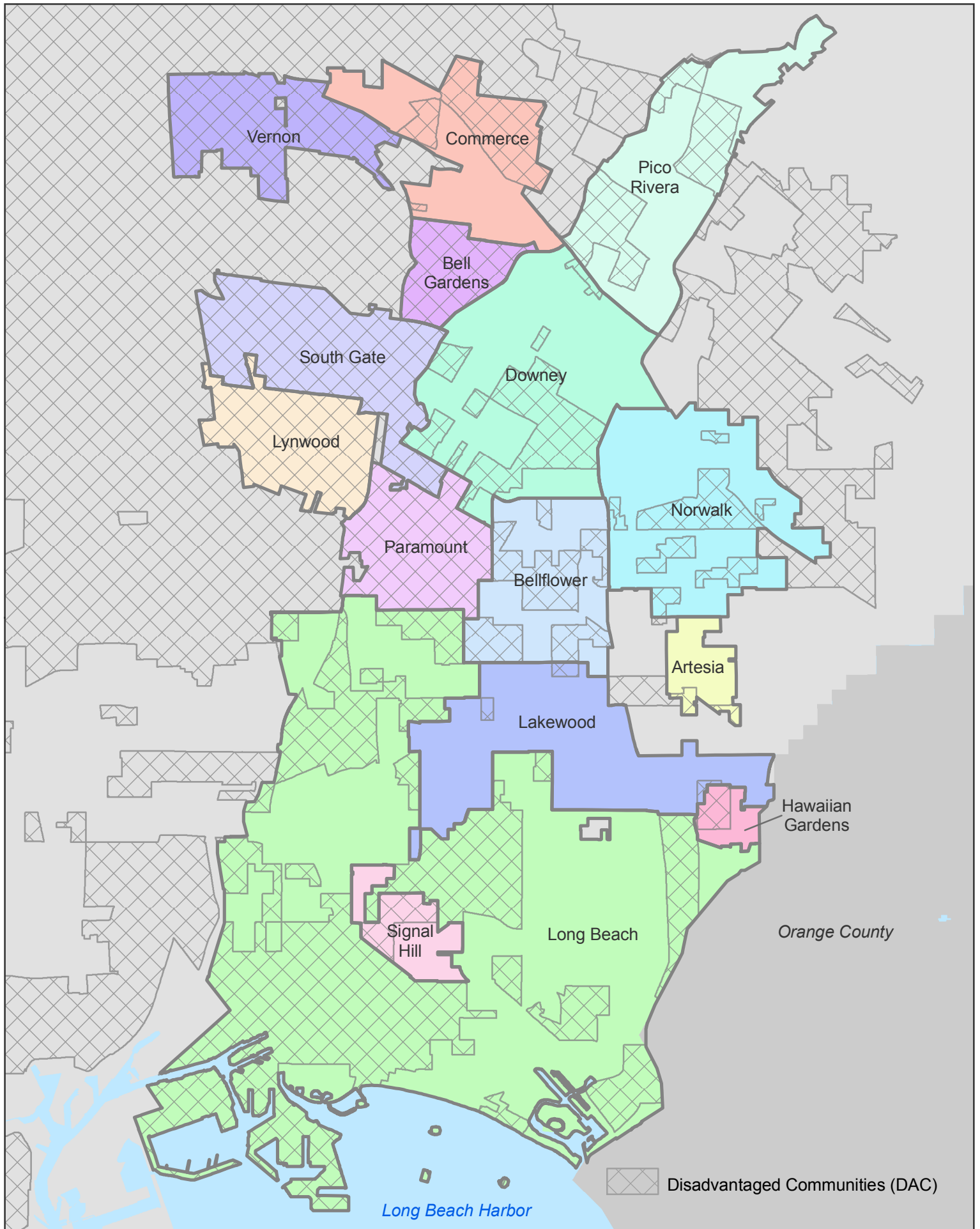
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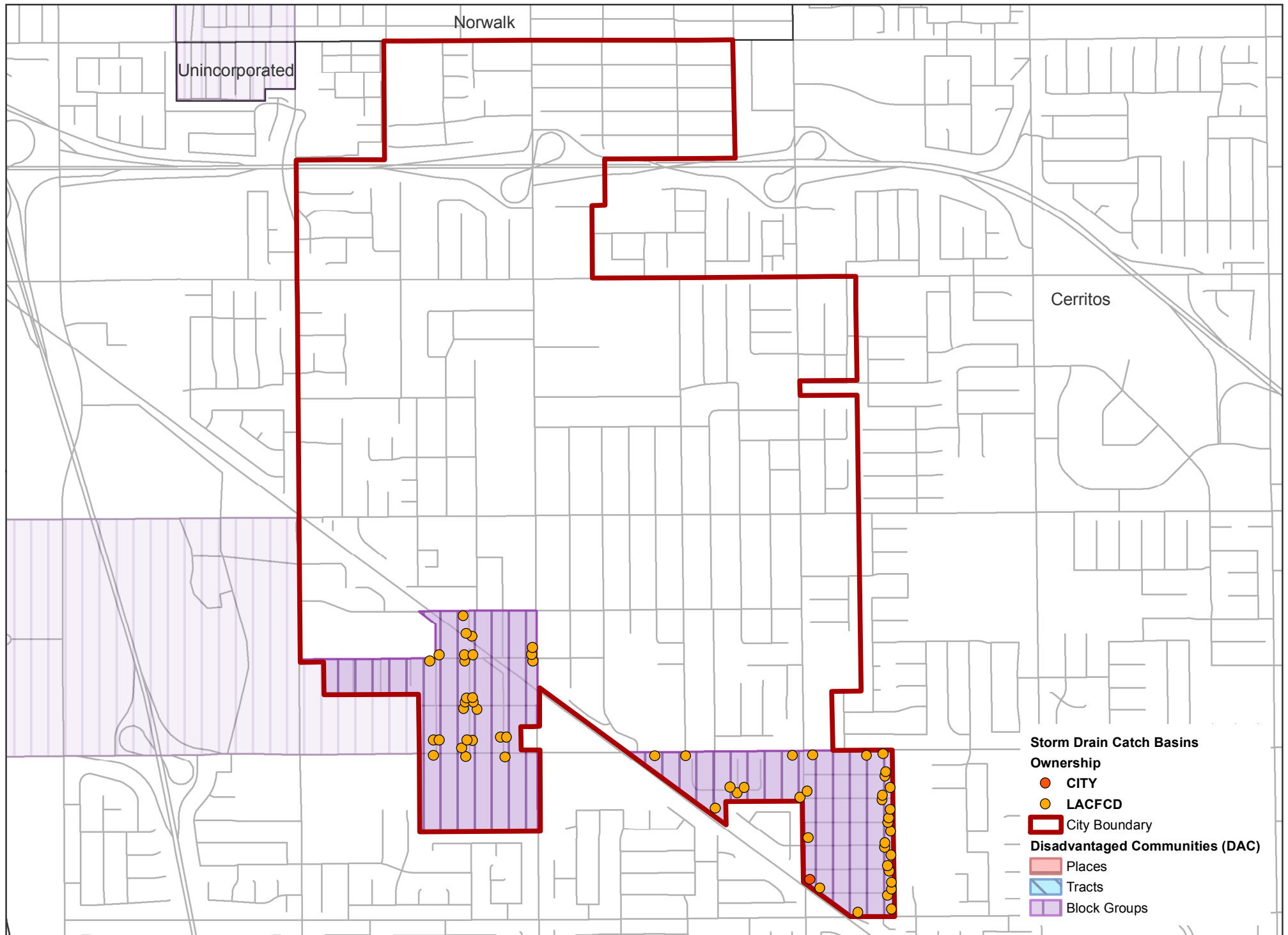
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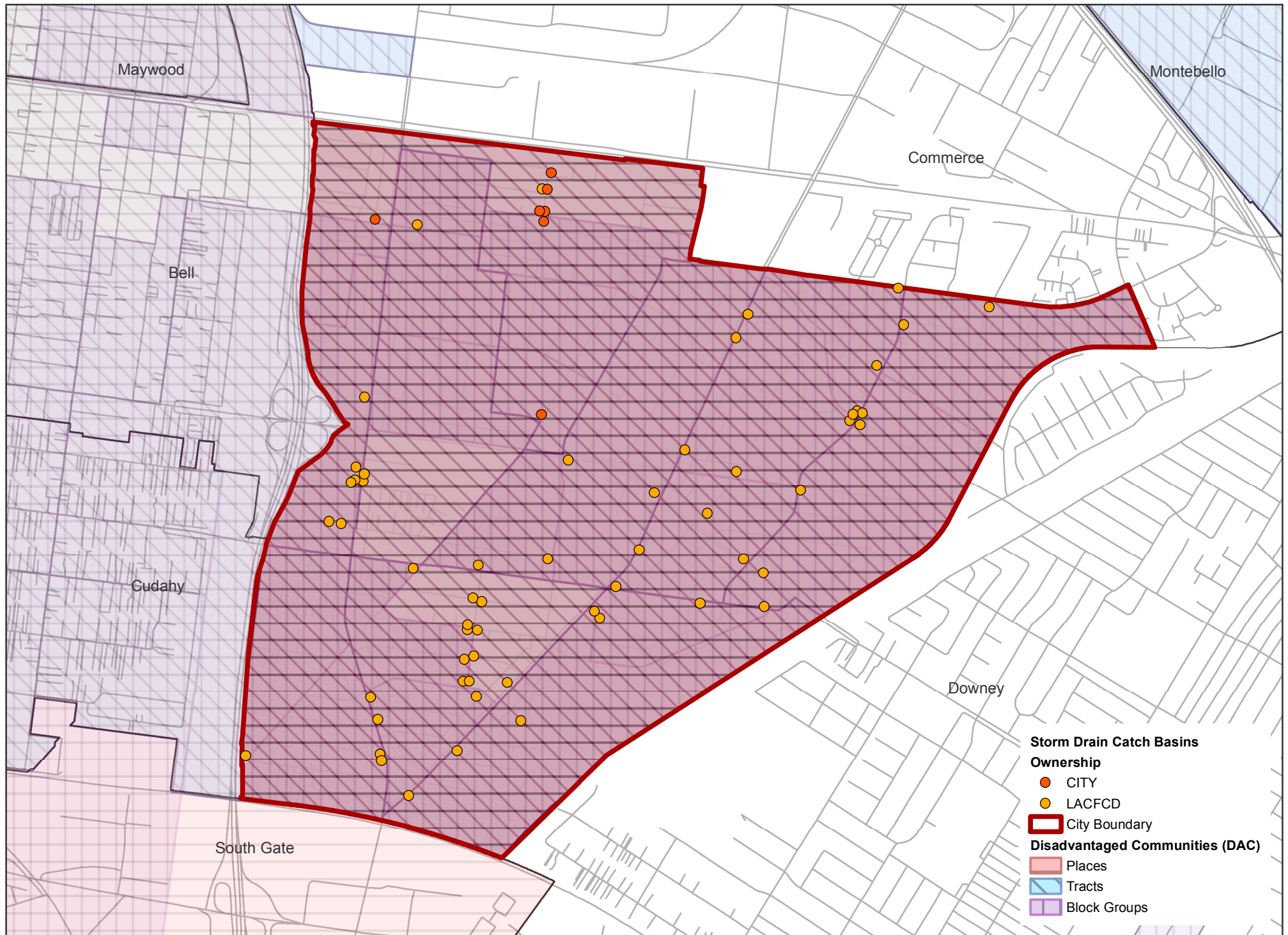
Gateway Integrated Multi-Benefit Regional Water Management Project



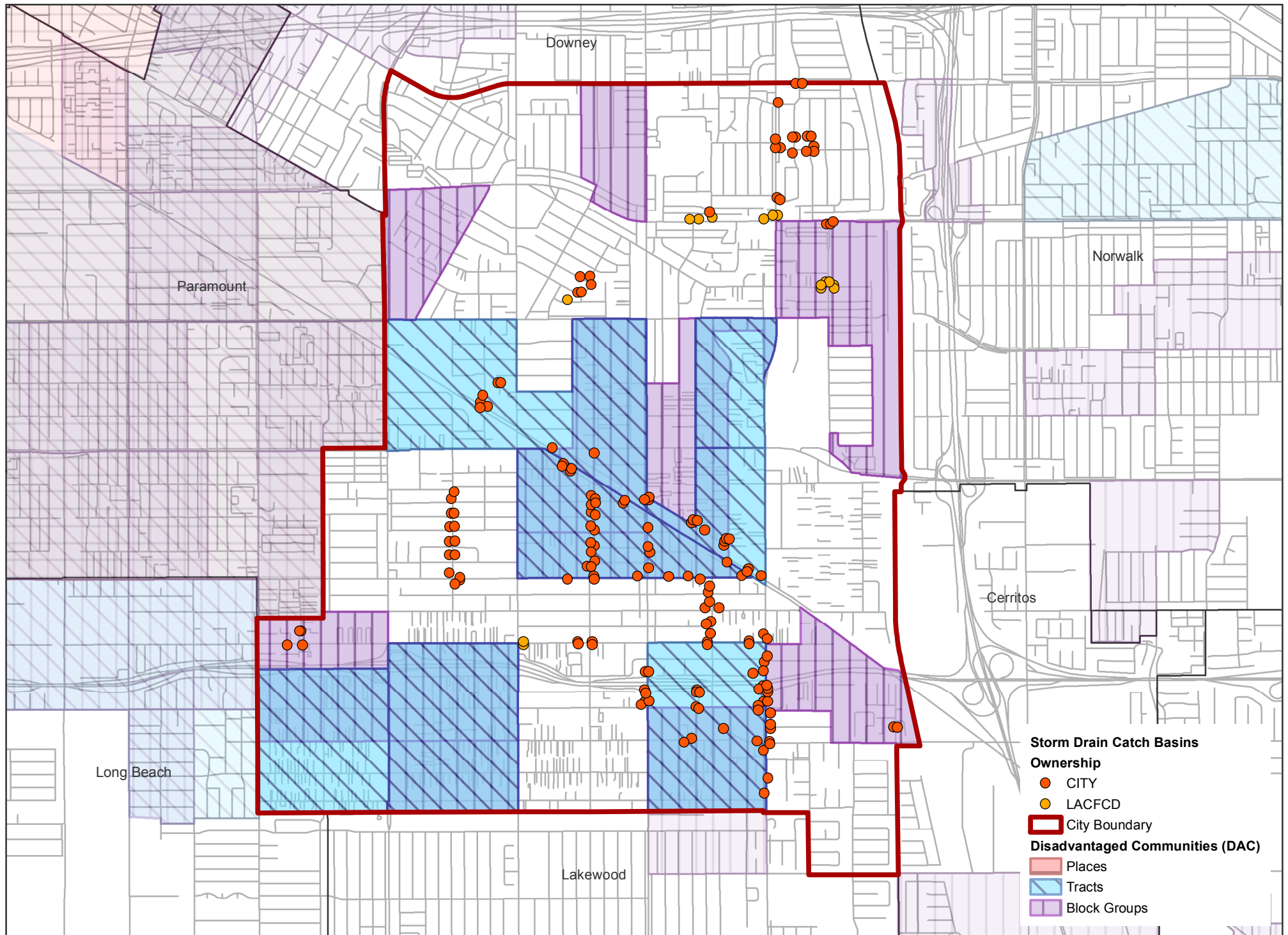
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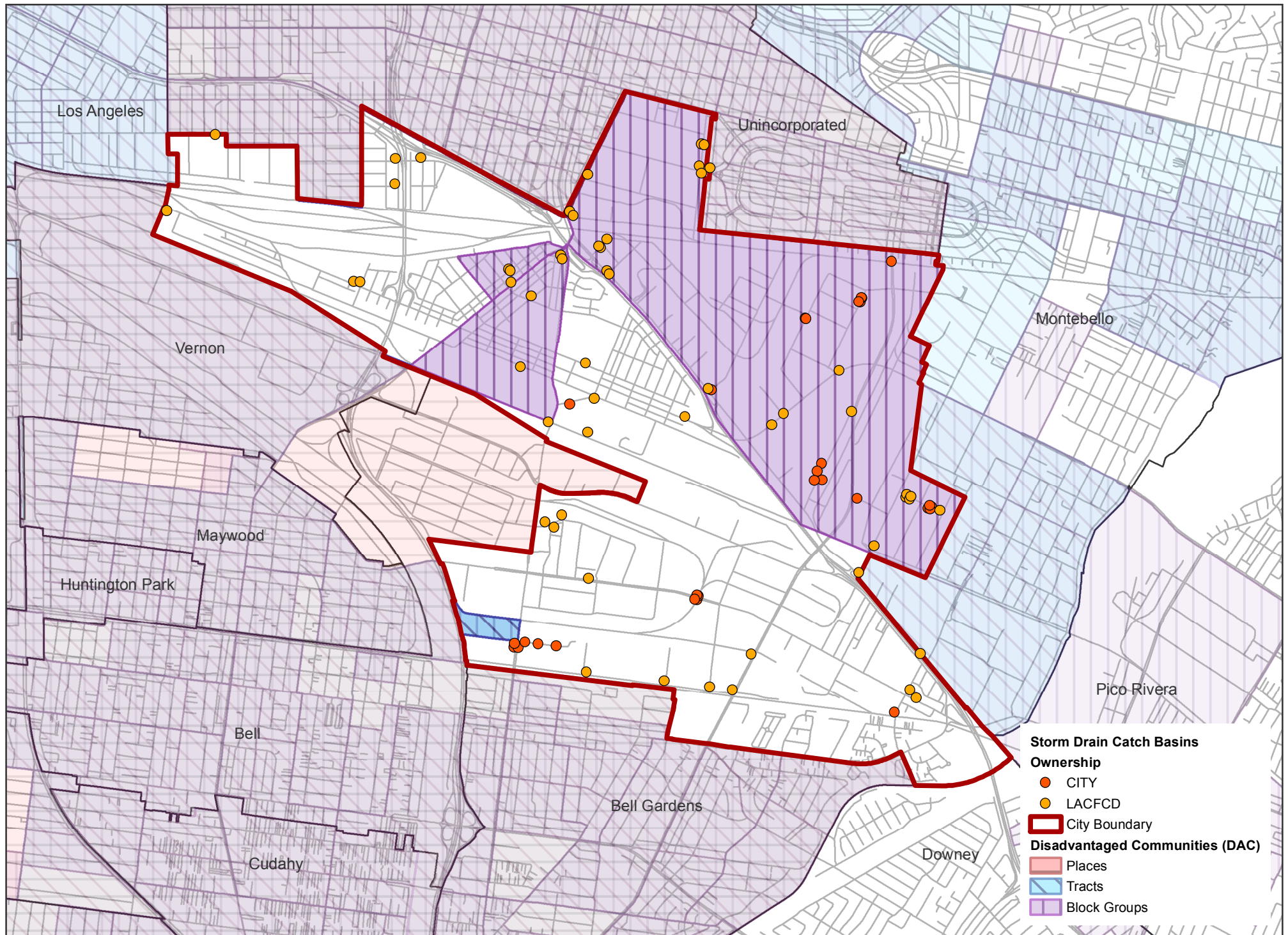
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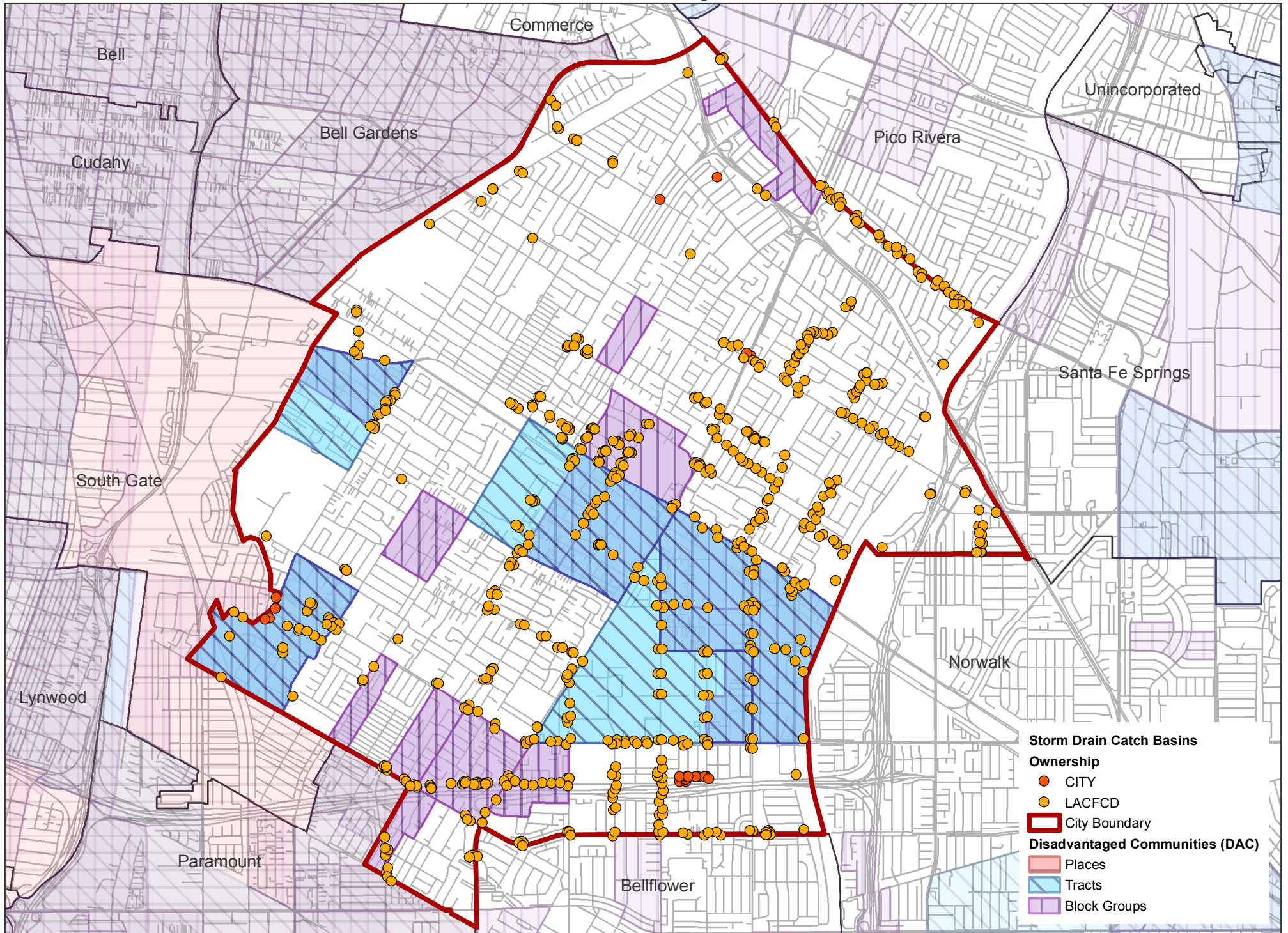
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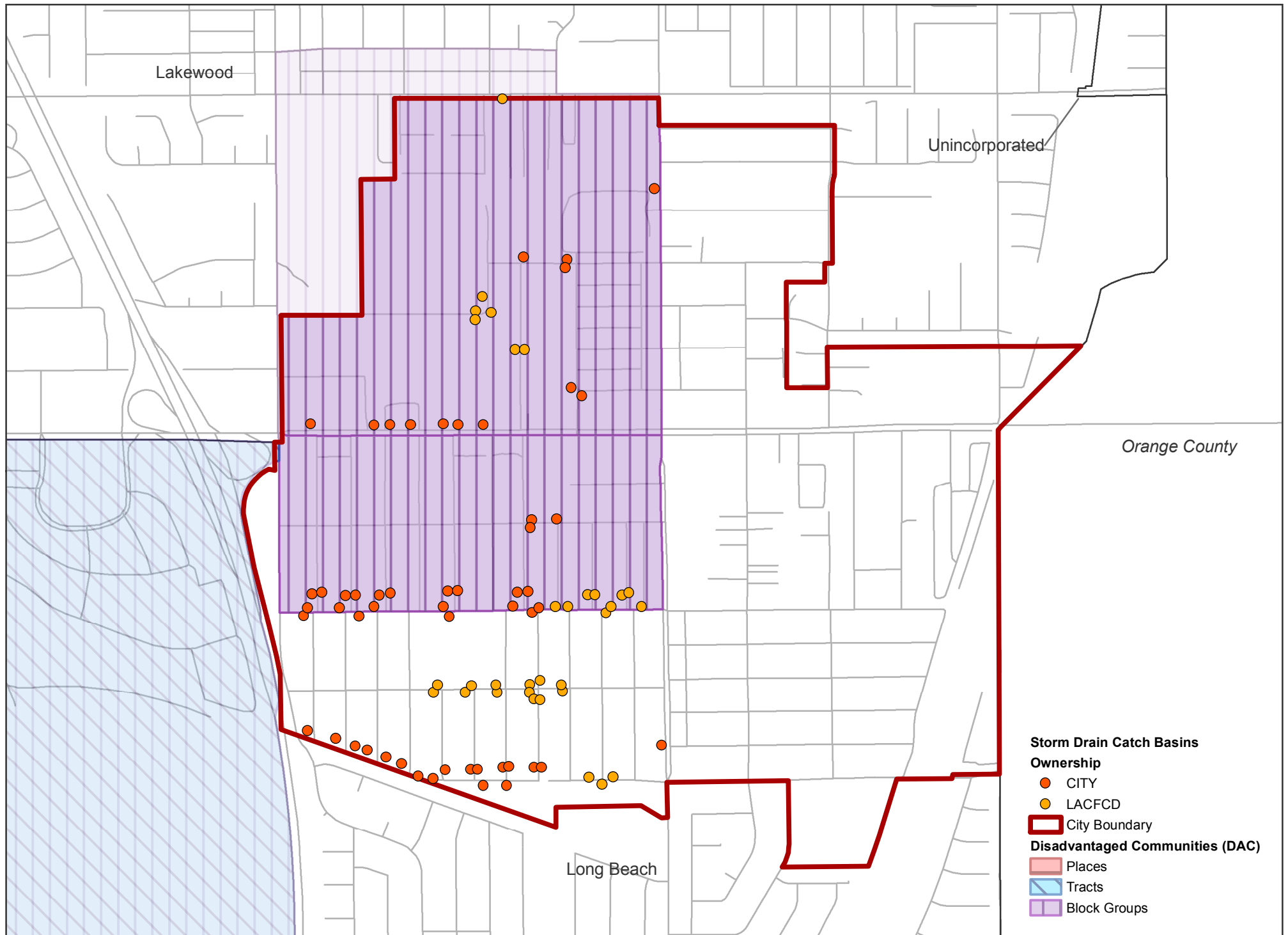
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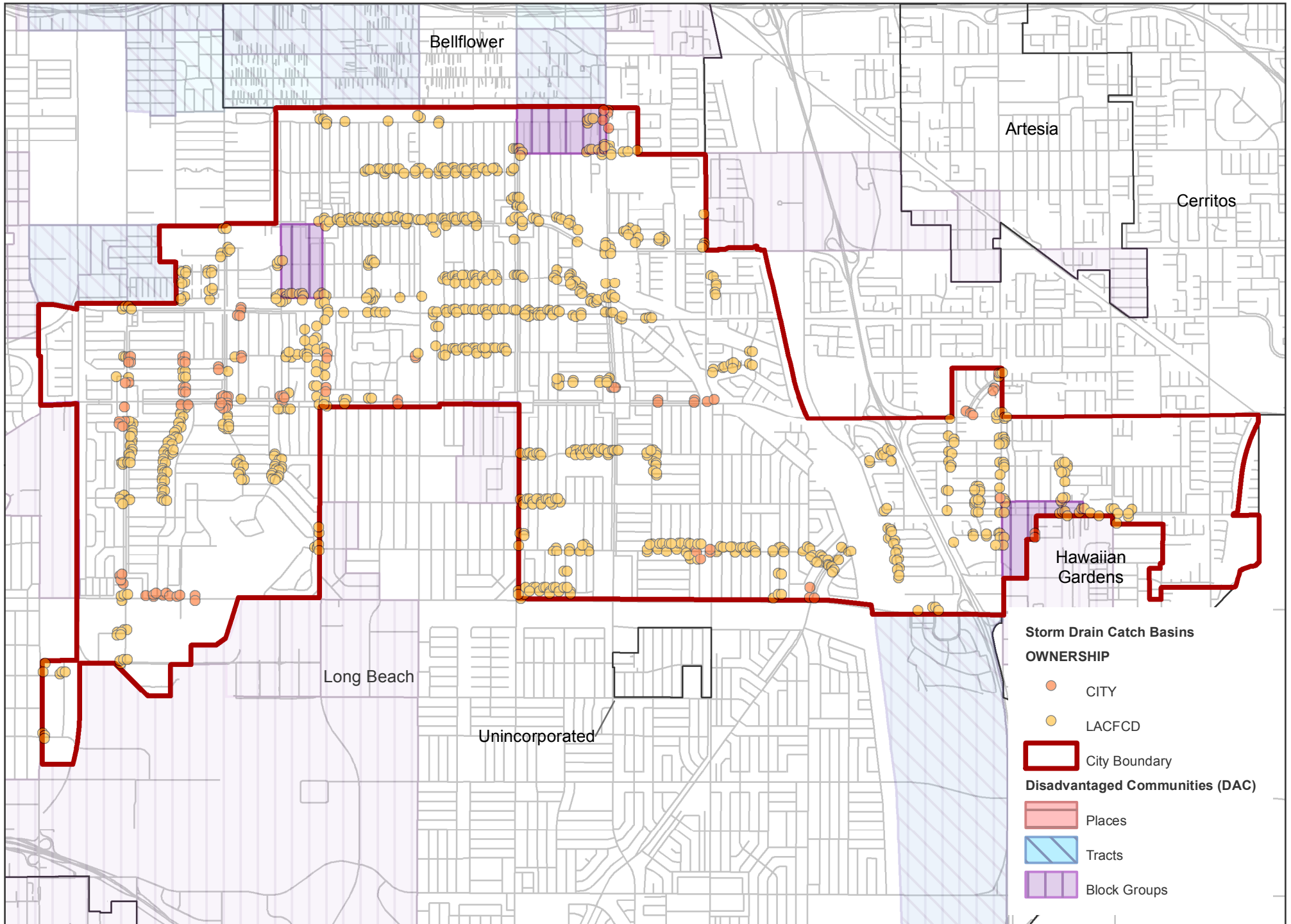
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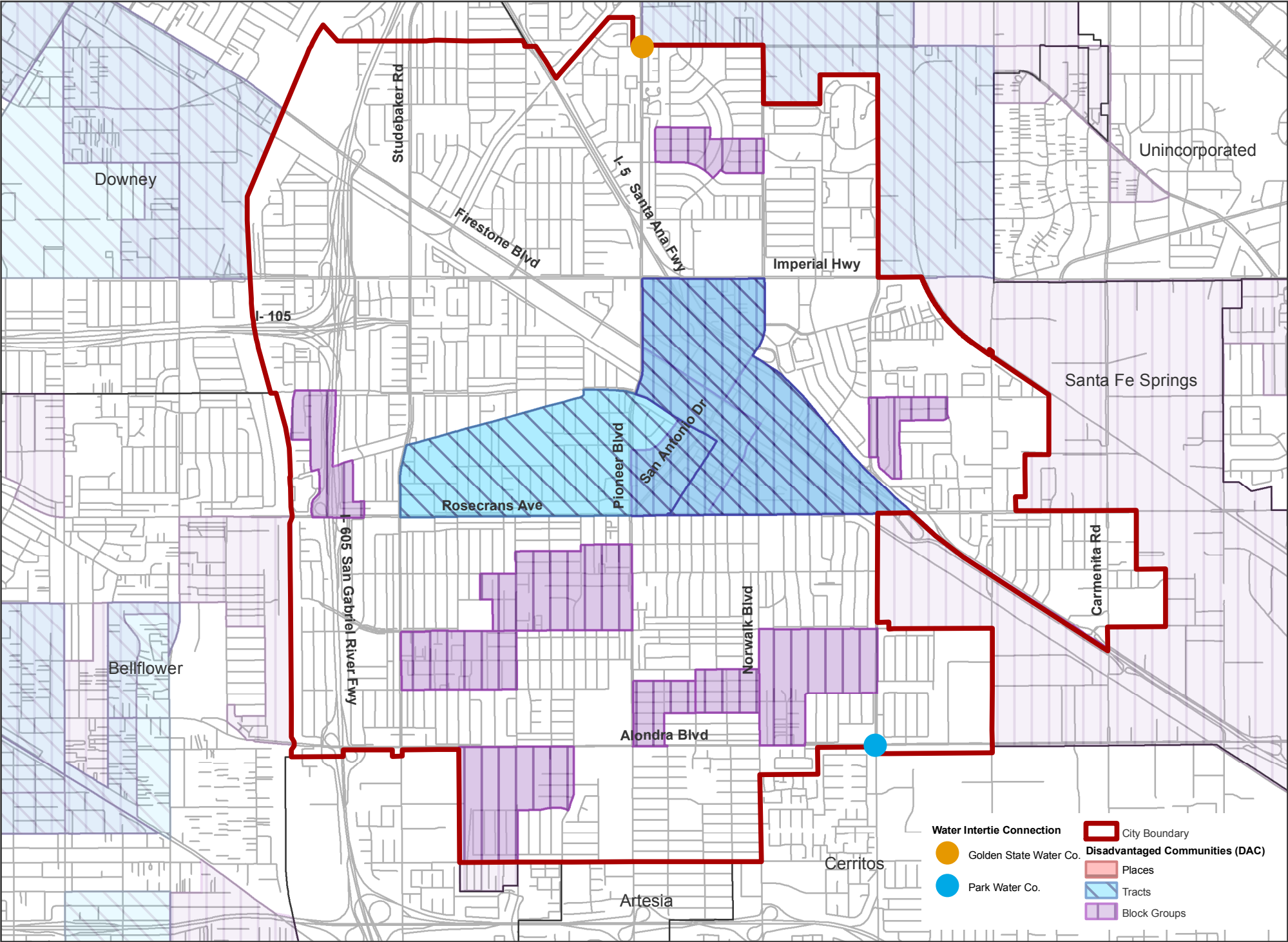
Hawaiian Gardens



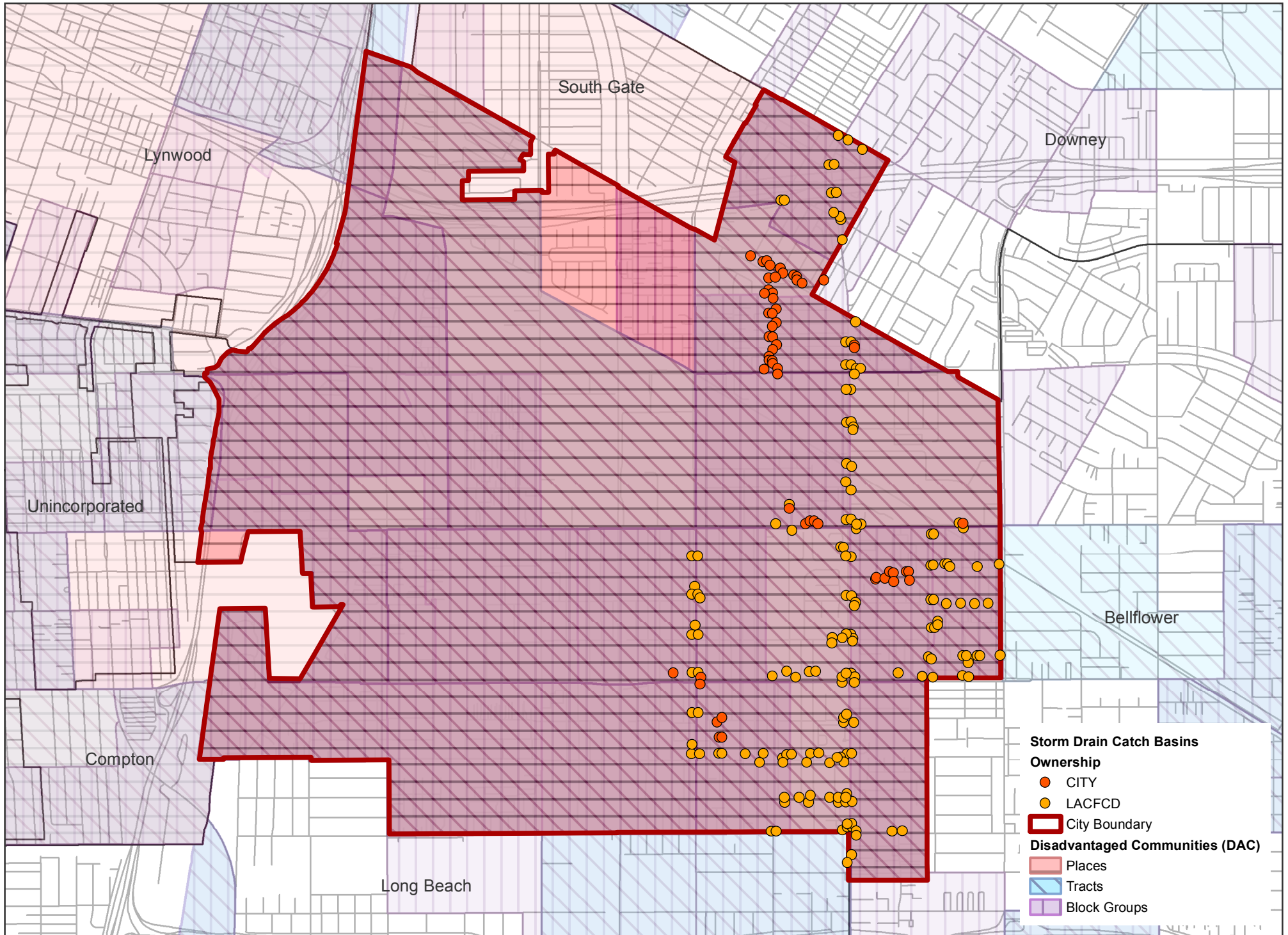
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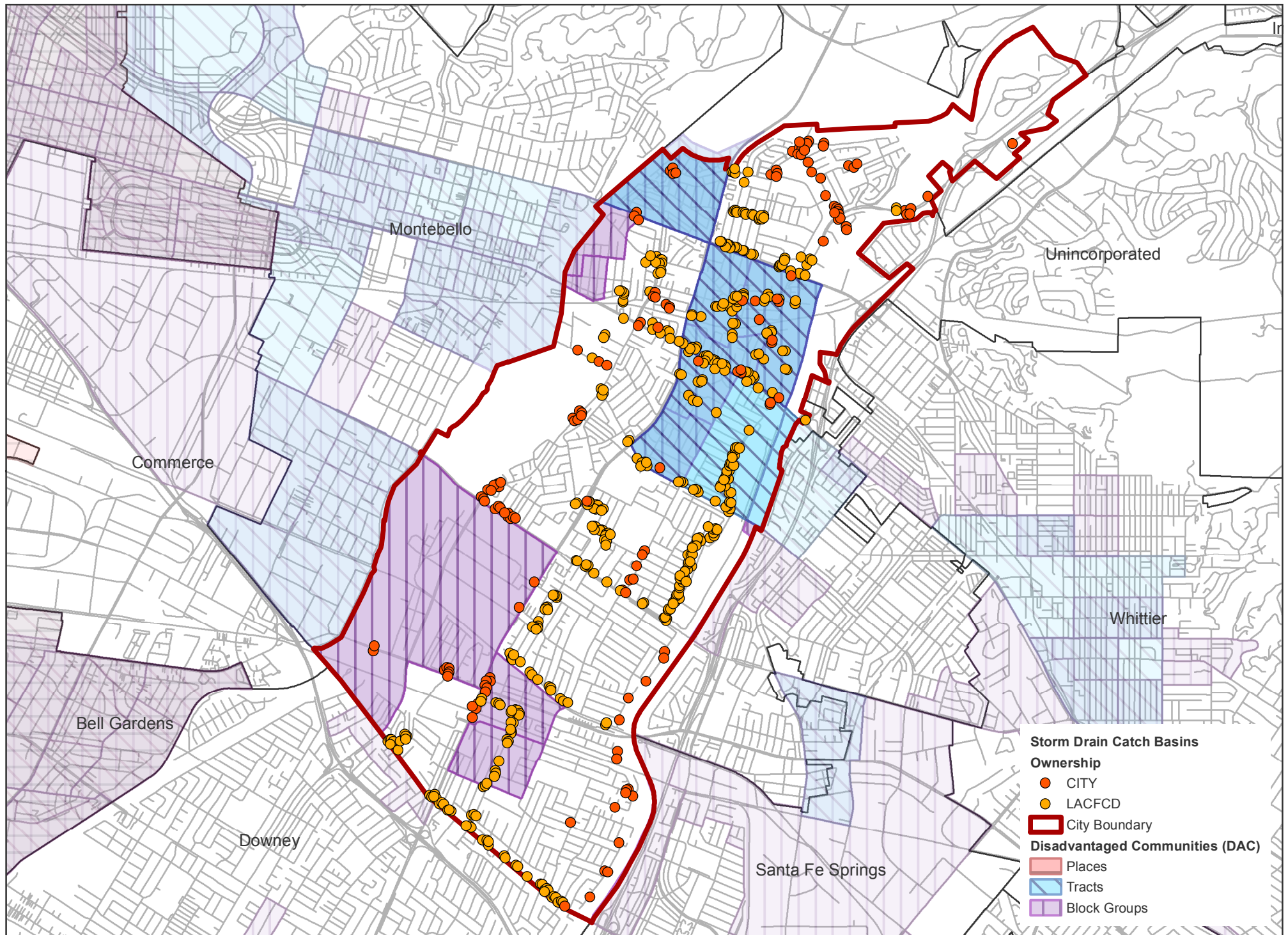
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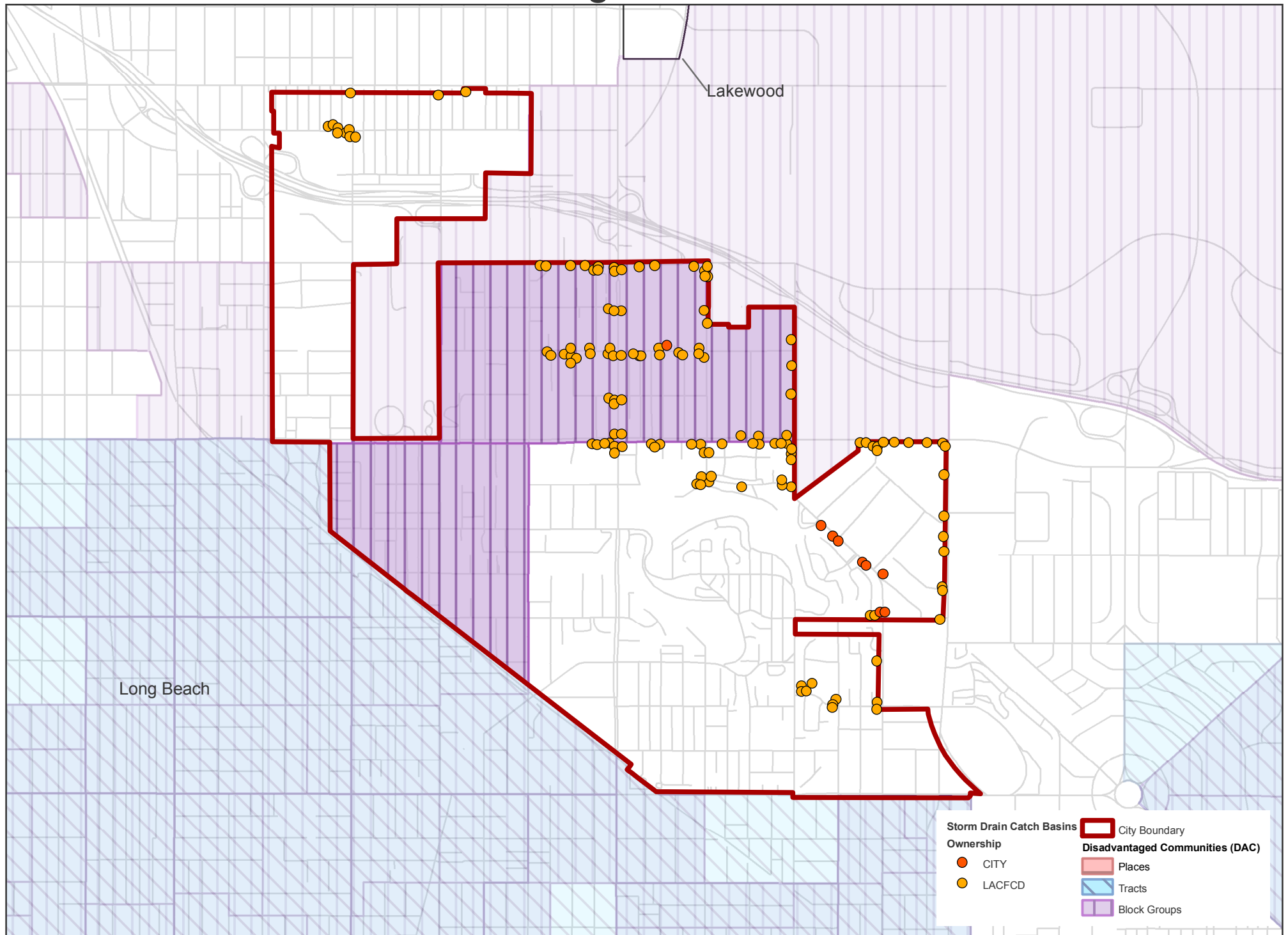
Paramount



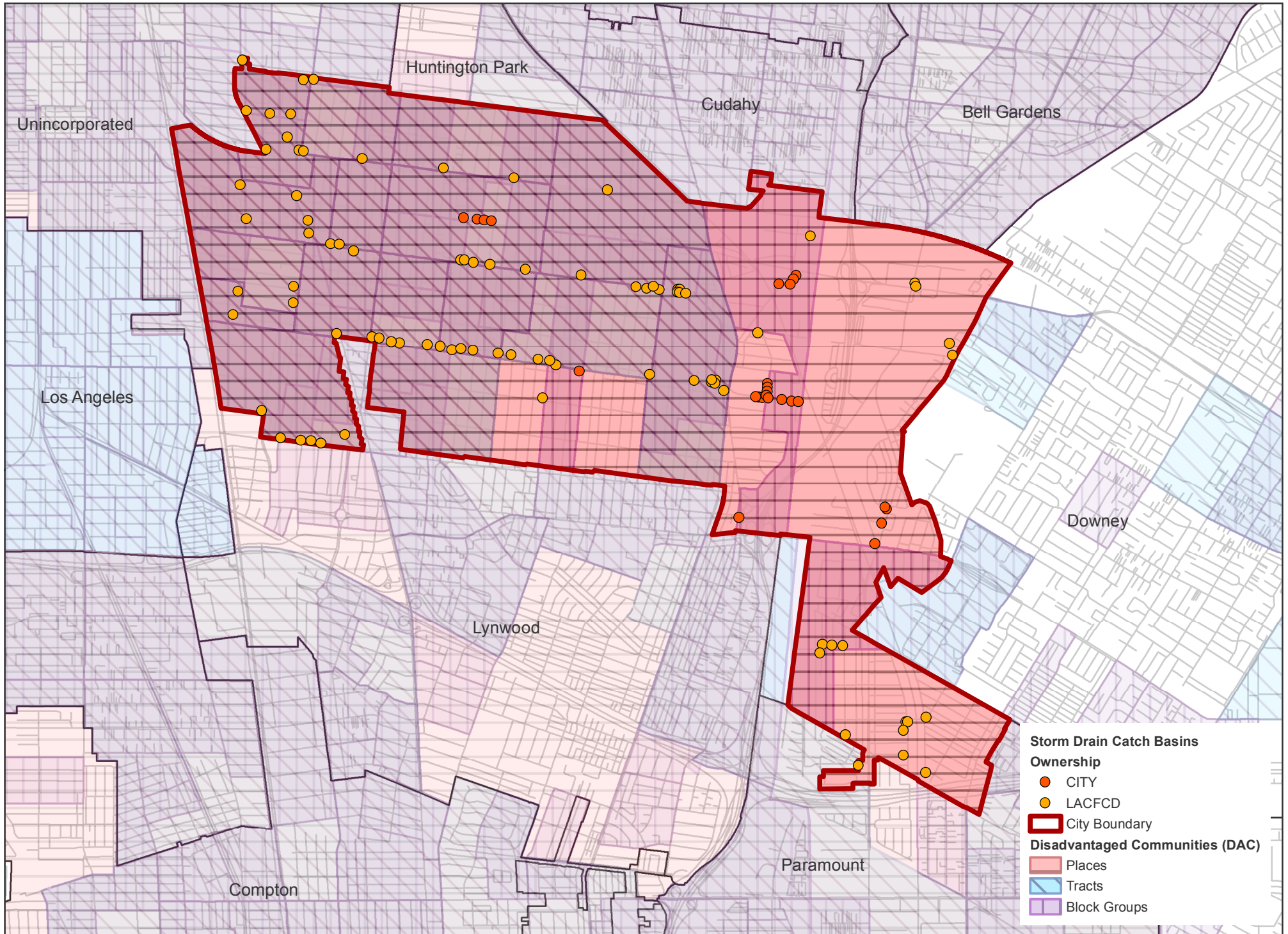
Pico Rivera



Signal Hill



South Gate



Vernon

